

PACIFIC LINGUISTICS

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**LANGUAGE MAPS OF THE
HIGHLANDS PROVINCES,
PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

**edited by
S. A. Wurm**



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LEGEND: LANGUAGES OF THE HIGHLANDS PROVINCES, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

LANGUAGES OF THE HIGHLANDS PROVINCES, PAPUA NEW GUINEA (overall map)

LANGUAGES: EASTERN HIGHLANDS PROVINCE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

LANGUAGES: CHIMBU PROVINCE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

LANGUAGES: WESTERN HIGHLANDS PROVINCE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

LANGUAGES: ENGA PROVINCE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

LANGUAGES: SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS PROVINCE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PREFACE

The language maps of the Highlands Provinces of Papua New Guinea contained in this publication are based on detailed materials and information provided by P. Brennan (Enga Province), K. Franklin (Southern Highlands Province), A. Stucky (Western Highlands Province, in collaboration with other members of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, New Guinea Branch), G. Bunn and B. Irwin (Chimbu Province, in collaboration with other members of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, New Guinea Branch), and R. Brown and G. Scott (Eastern Highlands Province). With the exception of P. Brennan, all the persons named are members of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, New Guinea Branch. In addition to the map information, the persons named and through them, others contacted by them, provided the editor with considerable details on the language affiliations of villages and census units in the Highlands Provinces. Information concerning the Western Highlands Province was also provided by Marie Reay of the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, of the Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University. The editor wishes to express his thanks to all the persons concerned for their valuable assistance and co-operation in this undertaking.

The editor also wishes to express his thanks to the Department of Human Geography of the Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, for its excellent co-operation in making its cartographic facilities available. Most especially he wants to thank the excellent cartographers themselves, in particular Val Lyon (on secondment from the cartographic section of the Department of Geography, School of General Studies, Australian National University) and T. Baumann, who spent many hours in producing the maps, with H. Gunther giving valuable advice and allotting the various tasks in a most efficient manner.

Information for the maps was also drawn from relevant publications, largely numbers of *Pacific Linguistics*, such as Wurm 1961 and chapters in Wurm, ed. 1975. Tonson 1976 proved to be a valuable source of details on the language situation of the area which it covers.

The present maps provide up-to-date, detailed information on the distribution of languages and language groups in the five Highlands Provinces of Papua New Guinea. The information provided on them constitutes a very considerable updating of that information presented on the editor's earlier map of the languages of the Highlands (Wurm 1961). Since the publication of that map there have been great advances in our knowledge of the language distribution and classification in the area concerned, and our knowledge of the topography of the area has also improved to a great extent. Nevertheless, it has to be kept in mind that the Highlands areas were among the first parts of Papua New Guinea for which detailed language maps were published already as early as the early sixties, at a time at which information, especially in published form, on the language distribution in most other parts of Papua New Guinea was very sketchy at best, with our knowledge of the classification and grouping of the languages involved in its early infancy, or for quite a few areas virtually non-existent. In the light of this, the differences between Wurm's 1961 map and the present maps appear relatively minor when compared with the differences, in other areas, between a near-total or total blank in the early sixties and our detailed knowledge of today, as presented in compendium form in Wurm, ed. 1975, and Wurm, ed. 1976.

Most, in fact almost all, of this spectacular progress in our knowledge has resulted from the intensive research work undertaken in Papua New Guinea by members of the Department of Linguistics in the Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, the work carried out by members of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, New Guinea Branch, and the close co-operation between these two bodies over many years. The editor wishes to record his thanks to the Research School of Pacific Studies and the Australian National University for their long-standing support of the research activities of his Department, and wishes to express his thanks to the Summer Institute of Linguistics, New Guinea Branch, for their long and fruitful co-operation with his Department in linguistic research in Papua New Guinea.

The maps presented in this publication constitute the first step towards a Language and Village Checklist of the Highlands Provinces which is planned to appear in Series B of *Pacific Linguistics*. Similar Checklists have already been published in *Pacific Linguistics* on the Sepik Provinces (Laycock 1973), Central and South-East Mainland Papua

(Dutton 1973), the Madang Province (Z'graggen 1975), Irian Jaya (Voorhoeve 1975), and one for the Morobe Province is in preparation (McElhanon, forthcoming).

Seeing that the preparation of the extensive materials to be included in the Language and Village Checklist of the Highlands Provinces is expected to take some considerable time, it was felt that making the maps available to the public prior to the appearance of the Checklist itself, would be of value seeing that they provide up-to-date detailed information on the language distribution in the Highlands Provinces and thus fill a serious gap in the existing literature.

It is envisaged that the language maps of the Highlands Provinces will be included in the Checklist in a different, more detailed form which will provide information on village locations and other matters of relevance to a language and village checklist such as census division boundaries.

S.A. Wurm
March 1978

NOTES ON THE MAPS INCLUDED IN THIS PUBLICATION

Detailed legends have been included with the maps in this publication, on the maps themselves and separately. They are self-explanatory. The readers' attention is however drawn specifically to two points:

A) Languages Separated Geographically by Uninhabited Area

When two or more languages are geographically separated from each other by an uninhabited area, their borders on both sides of the uninhabited area have been shown on the maps as the same as they would be if the languages were adjoining each other. Example: a language situated on one side of an uninhabited area faces two languages across that area, one of them a member of the same family to which it belongs, and the other a member of a different stock within the same phylum. In such a case, that portion of the border of the first of the three languages named which is directly opposite the member of its own family, constitutes a 'language border'. However, that portion of its border which is directly opposite the member of the other stock, is shown as a 'stock border'.

B) Mixed Borders

In a number of instances, the exact classificatory status of languages is controversial. A number of the Highlands communalects are on the border of being related to their neighbours on the dialect or language levels. These situations have been indicated on the maps through language borders which constitute a mixture of dialect and language borders. This type of mixed border has been listed in the legends.

However, there are a few other instances calling for indication through mixed borders. So for instance, Z'graggen (1971) regards Gants as a member language of the Kalam Family, whereas Tonson (1976) believes that it belongs to a different stock, outside the stock into which he includes Kalam. This as yet unresolved controversy has been indicated on the map through separating Gants from Kalam through a border which is composed of elements of the language and stock borders.

Similarly, the status of Waibuk, Aramo, Pinaï and Wapi is in doubt. Tonson (1976) includes the first two into a family which he regards as belonging to the same stock as the Kalam Family within the Trans-New Guinea Phylum. Laycock, in Laycock and Z'graggen 1975, includes them, along with Pinaï, into a stock-level family member of the Sepik-Ramu Phylum. Additional information kindly made available by Paul Brennan on Pinaï has been inadequate for resolving the issue, but has demonstrated that Pinaï stands somewhat apart from Waibuk and Aramo, though being apparently related to them, and that Wapi appears to be related to Pinaï, though not very closely. Until more information becomes available on the structure of the languages involved (most of the extant information is lexical in nature), the controversy remains unresolved. In view of this, the relevant borders of these languages have been shown on the maps as mixtures of the border types which would apply if one or the other of the two possible classifications of the languages were correct, i.e. if they were members of the Trans-New Guinea Phylum, or alternatively, of the Sepik-Ramu Phylum, and question marks were placed against these borders.

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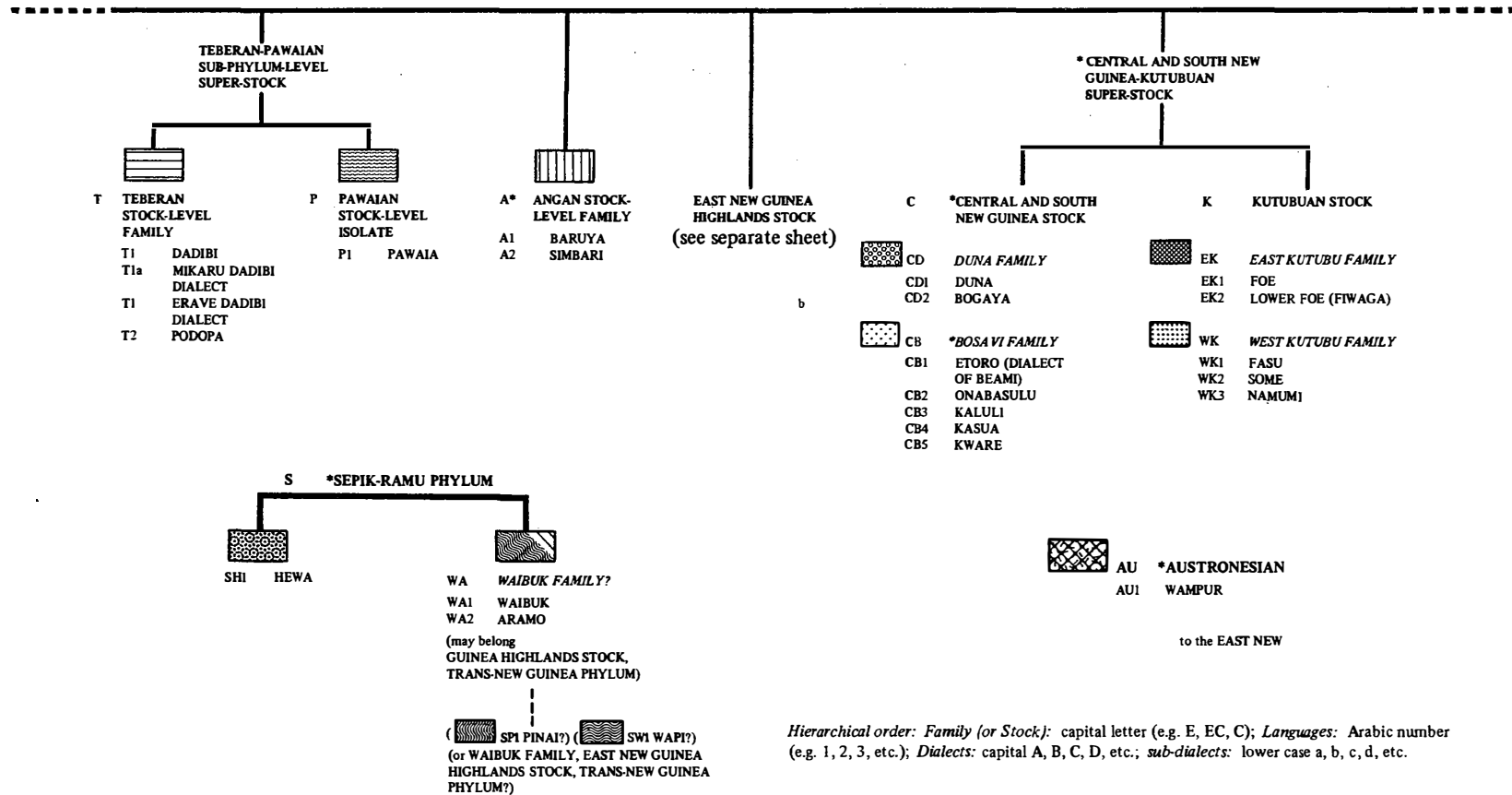
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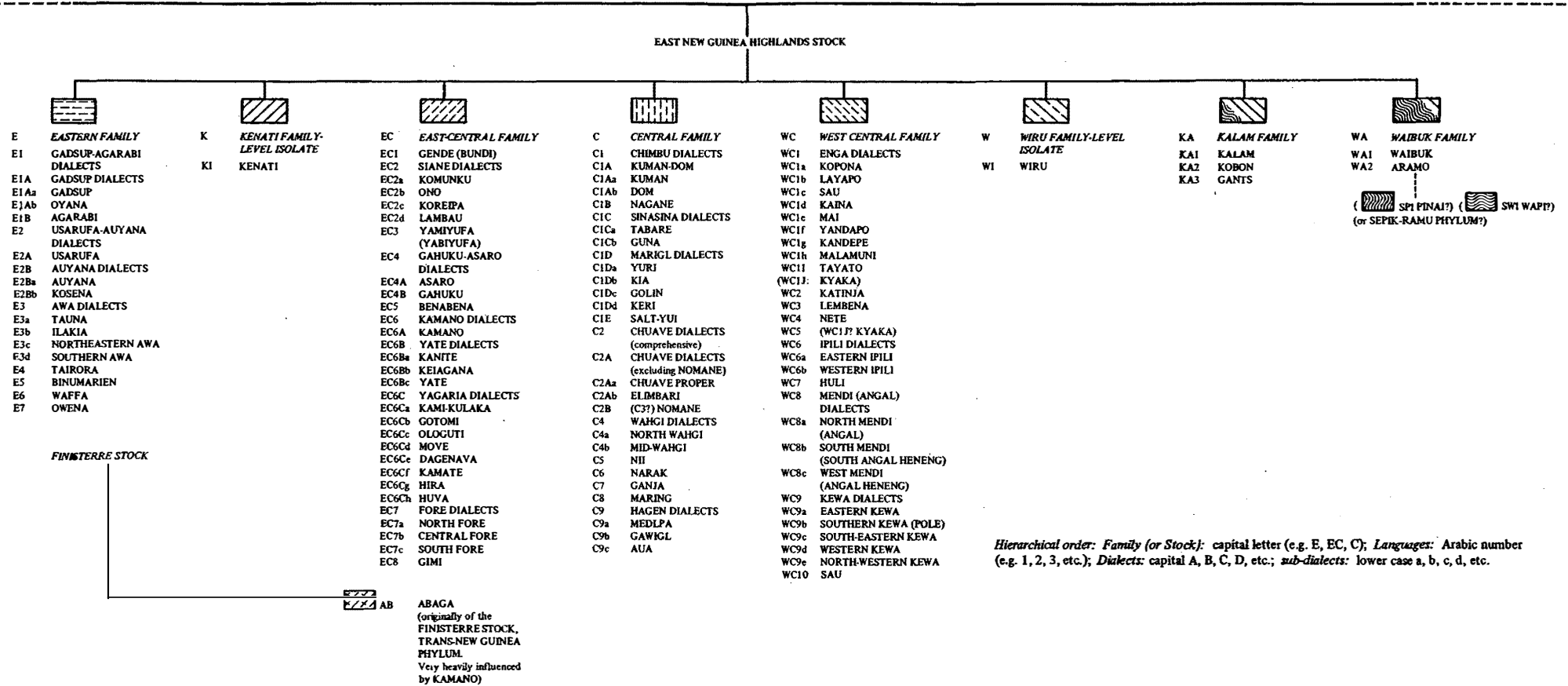
LANGUAGES OF THE HIGHLANDS
PROVINCES, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

* Listing Incomplete:
Language area extends
area covered by maps.

*TRANS-NEW GUINEA PHYLUM

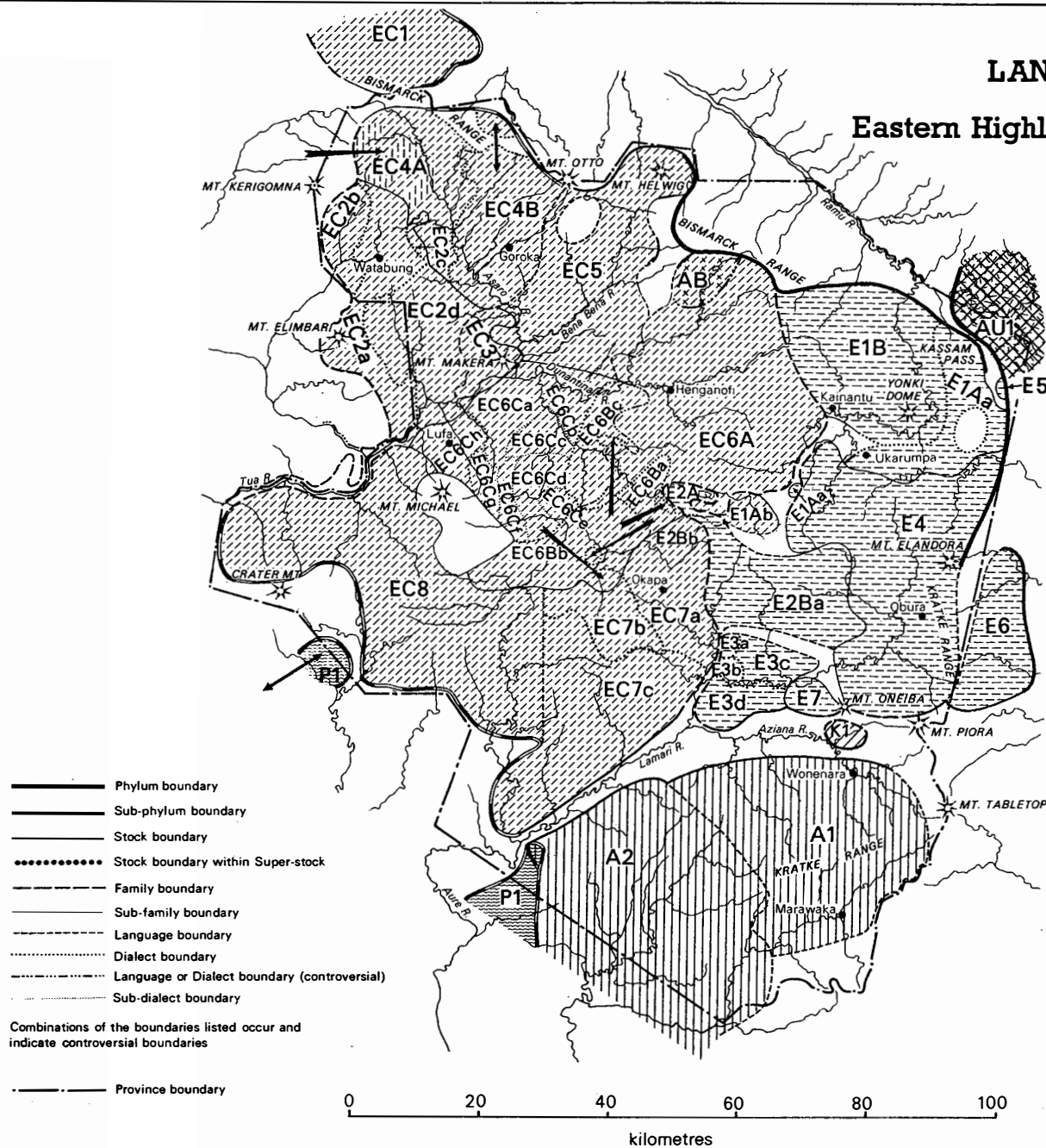


*TRANS-NEW GUINEA PHYLUM

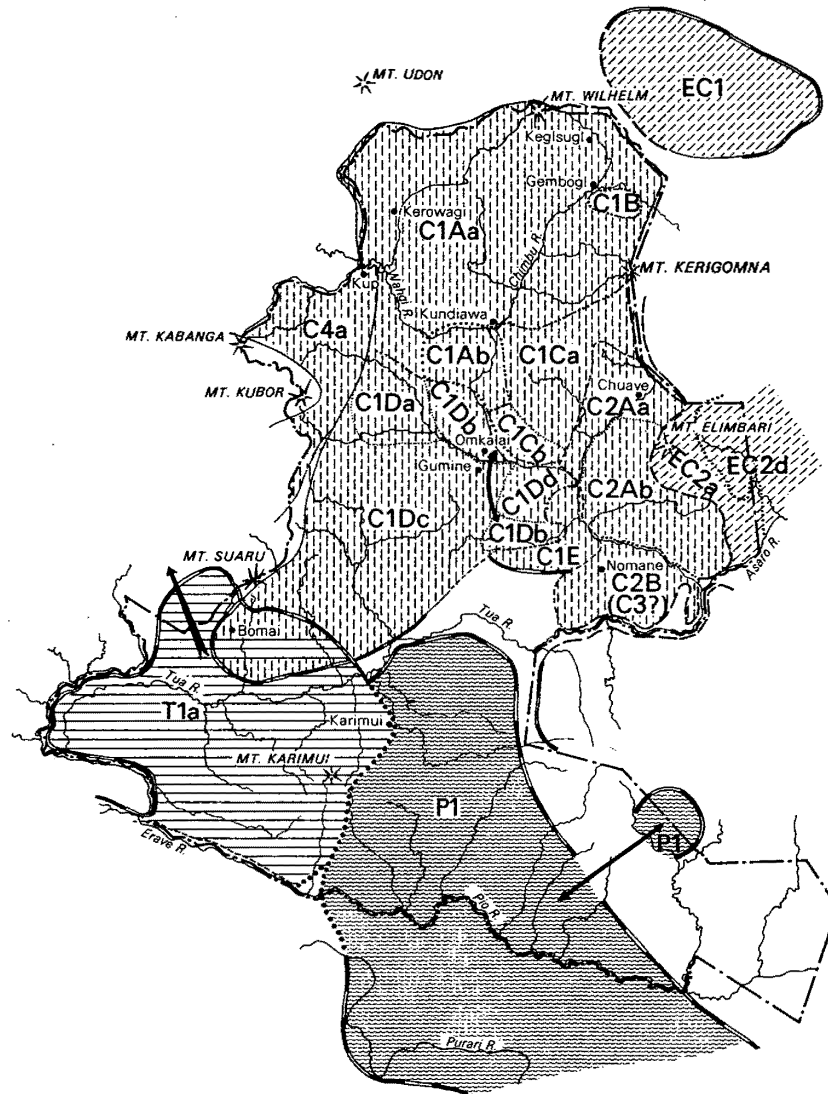


LANGUAGES

Eastern Highlands Province PNG



LANGUAGES Chimbu Province PNG

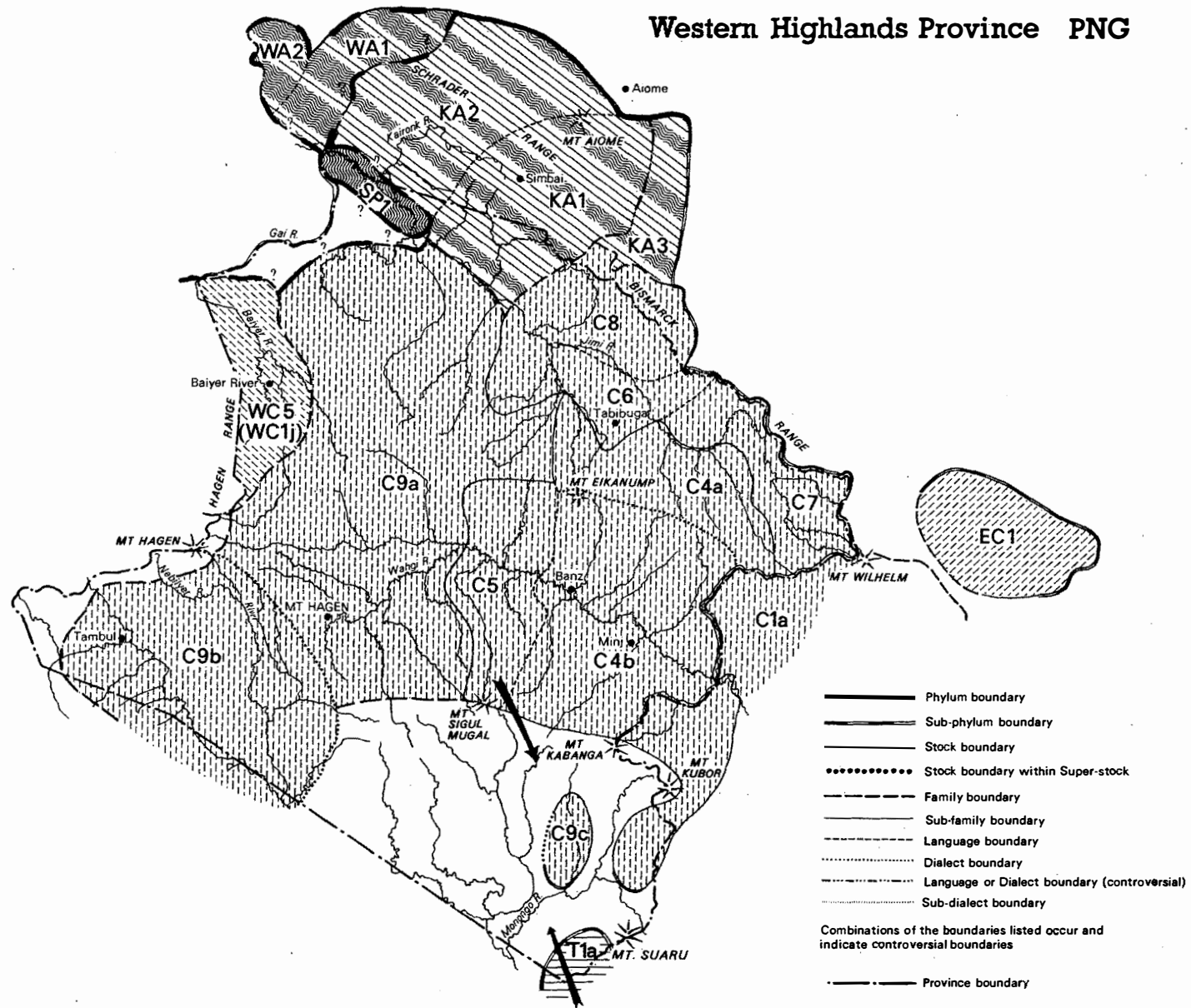


- Phylum boundary
 - Sub-phylum boundary
 - Stock boundary
 - Stock boundary within Super-stock
 - Family boundary
 - Sub-family boundary
 - Language boundary
 - Dialect boundary
 - Language or Dialect boundary (controversial)
 - Sub-dialect boundary
- Combinations of the boundaries listed occur and indicate controversial boundaries
- Province boundary

0 20 40 60 80 100
kilometres

LANGUAGES

Western Highlands Province PNG



LANGUAGES Enga Province PNG

